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Labor Market Digest, April 1994

Maine Bureau of Employment Security

Maine Division of Manpower Research

Maine Labor Market Research

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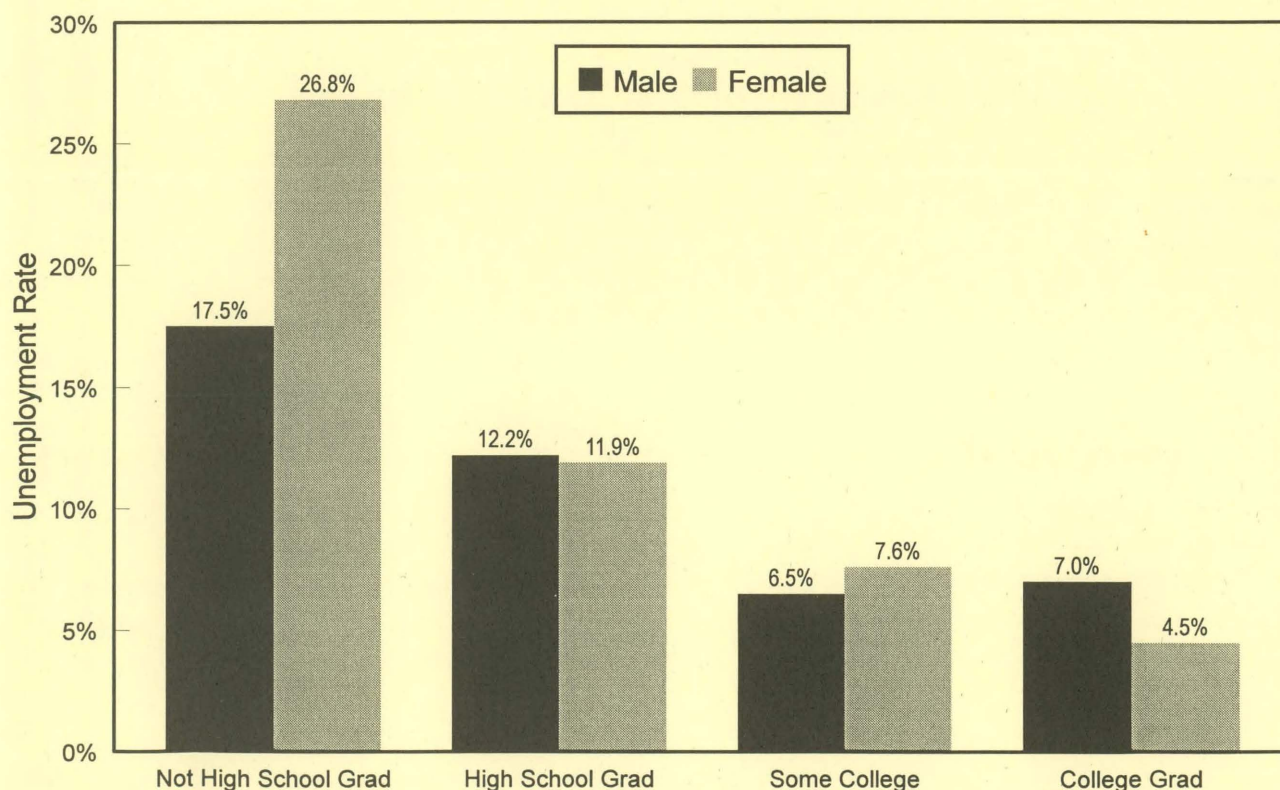
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The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

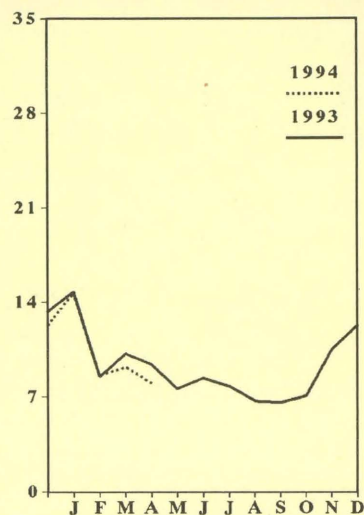
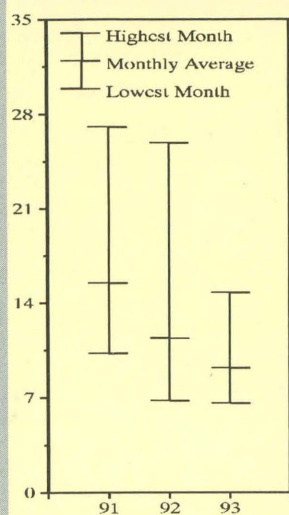
Unemployment Rates for Out-of-School Youth Aged 16-24 United States, October 1993



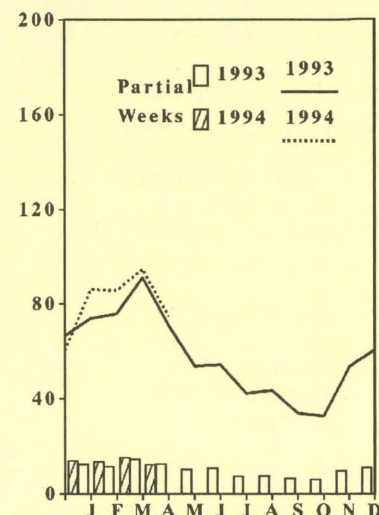
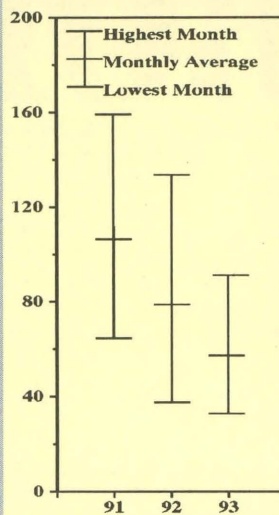
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The labor market success of out-of-school youth aged 16 to 24 in the United States, as measured by the unemployment rate, is linked directly to the level of education they have completed. High school dropouts had by far the highest jobless rates, while those who had attended or graduated from college had the lowest jobless rates.

UI Initial Claims In Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed In Thousands



Unemployment Insurance Quality Control

The Maine Department of Labor operates a Quality Control Program which audits the payment of unemployment compensation benefits to determine the accuracy of those payments. Each week twelve payments are randomly selected as an audit sample, and approximately 16 hours are devoted to reviewing every aspect of a single payment. The investigators interview the claimant and his or her last employer, audit all payroll records which affect the claim, verify documentation relative to issues such as pension receipt and dependency allowance, and conduct in-person interviews with each employer that the claimant listed as a work search contact.

The investigations for CY 1993 showed the biggest category of errors by percentage of dollars overpaid was work search issues (55.0 percent). Benefit year earnings issues accounted for the next largest amount overpaid (25.6 percent) followed by eligibility issues (9.8 percent), which includes ability to work, availability to work, and refusal of jobs or referrals to jobs.

Responsibility for the overpayments lay mostly with the claimants who were the cause of 78.6 percent of all dollars overpaid. The next largest category of responsibility was the agency at 10.9 percent, followed by instances where the claimant and the agency were jointly responsible for 6.3 percent.

Summary of Quality Control Investigations, CY 1992

Item	Number of Payments	Dollars Paid	Item	Percentage of Dollars	95% Confidence Interval (+/-)
Population	640,797	98,406,748	Proper Payments	89.0	2.6
Sample	600	91,678	Overpayments	11.0	2.6
			Underpayments	0.8	0.5



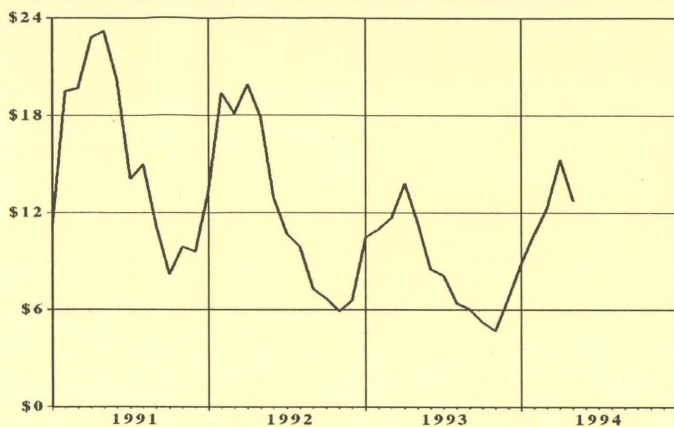
Selected Employment Security Activities



Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

In Millions

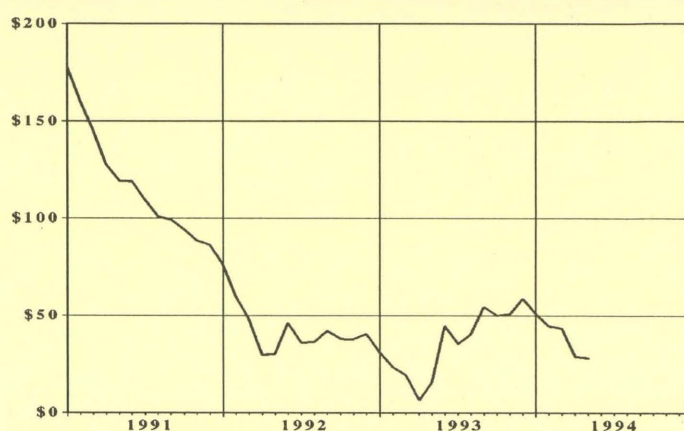
(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance

In Millions

(End of Month)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	1991	1992	1993
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing.....	\$477.46	\$480.62	\$471.77	40.6	40.8	40.6	\$11.76	\$11.78	\$11.62	\$11.08	\$11.38	\$11.63
Durable Goods.....	465.20	470.34	456.52	40.0	40.2	40.4	11.63	11.70	11.30	10.61	11.14	11.43
Lumber and Wood Products.....	386.26	381.97	374.88	41.4	41.7	41.7	9.33	9.16	8.99	8.97	9.25	9.33
Primary and Fabricated Metals.....	445.11	443.69	474.12	40.1	39.9	43.9	11.10	11.12	10.80	10.18	10.45	11.00
Industrial Machinery and Equipment.....	625.29	638.91	541.20	44.6	45.8	41.0	14.02	13.95	13.20	12.43	12.82	13.32
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment.....	401.32	400.72	406.64	38.7	38.2	39.1	10.37	10.49	10.40	9.91	10.02	10.33
Transportation Equipment.....	552.96	574.53	558.83	37.9	38.2	38.7	14.59	15.04	14.44	12.55	14.09	14.64
Other Durable Goods.....	384.56	364.51	364.27	40.1	40.1	40.7	9.59	9.09	8.95	8.57	8.86	8.89
Nondurable Goods.....	486.26	488.99	483.89	41.0	41.3	40.8	11.86	11.84	11.86	11.48	11.57	11.79
Food and Kindred Products.....	348.23	335.74	353.44	35.9	34.4	37.6	9.70	9.76	9.40	8.76	9.15	9.34
Textile Mill Products.....	424.84	417.31	402.57	44.3	47.1	42.6	9.59	8.86	9.45	8.82	9.03	9.49
Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	287.07	288.56	285.68	36.2	36.9	35.8	7.93	7.82	7.98	7.28	7.65	7.95
Paper and Allied Products.....	743.16	752.58	745.71	44.0	44.4	44.6	16.89	16.95	16.72	16.06	16.25	16.63
Leather and Leather Products.....	318.72	316.61	305.63	39.3	38.8	38.3	8.11	8.16	7.98	7.82	7.92	8.00
Other Nondurable Goods.....	424.68	429.45	407.40	40.6	40.4	39.4	10.46	10.63	10.34	9.85	10.07	10.28
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing.....	430.00	418.70	412.80	38.6	39.5	38.4	11.14	10.60	10.75	10.45	10.55	10.68
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing.....	388.85	398.90	388.68	39.8	42.8	39.3	9.77	9.32	9.89	9.33	9.53	9.82

Female Labor Force in Maine in Thousands

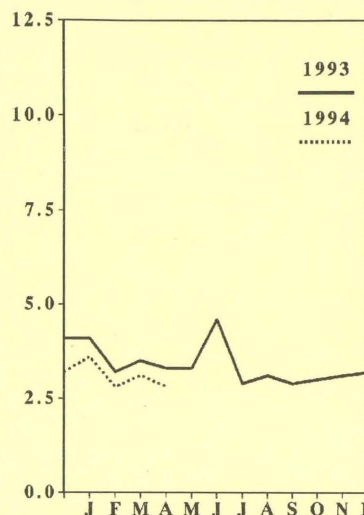
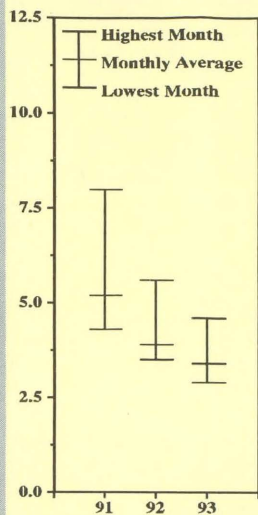
ITEM ^{1/}	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Labor Force	291.0	293.5	290.5
Unemployment (Percent)	20.8	17.2	22.1
Resident Employed	270.1	276.2	268.4

U.S. Consumer Price Index

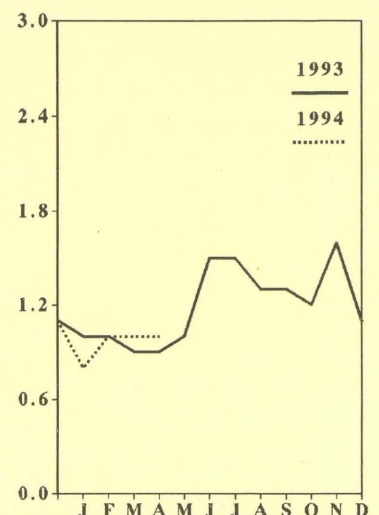
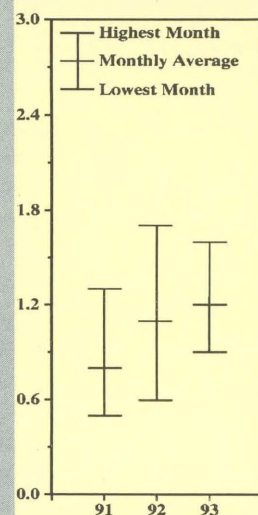
BASE PERIOD (1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)		This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
		147.4	147.2	144.0	145.8
Percent Change for Past Month		+0.1%			
Percent Change from Last December		+1.1%			
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago		+2.4%			

1/ Current figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.
Source: Female labor force estimates are developed by, and solely the responsibility of, the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research.

New Applications For Work in Thousands



Nonfarm Placements in Thousands (Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work (in Thousands)

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO	THIS MONTH	LAST MONTH	YEAR AGO
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/.....	514.5	508.1	506.6	123.5	124.0	122.7	39.5	39.2	38.7
Goods Producing.....	110.1	109.4	107.7	18.5	18.5	18.7	9.7	9.6	9.6
Construction and Mining.....	19.6	18.3	18.5	5.1	5.1	5.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Building Construction.....	4.7	4.3	4.7	1.2	1.2	1.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Special Trade Contractors.....	11.4	10.7	10.2	3.4	3.4	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manufacturing.....	90.5	91.1	89.2	13.4	13.4	13.4	8.3	8.2	8.2
Durable Goods.....	40.2	40.9	38.9	6.0	6.0	5.7	2.1	2.2	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products.....	10.0	10.9	9.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Primary and Fabricated Metals.....	3.4	3.3	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Industrial Machinery and Equipment.....	4.1	4.1	3.6	1.3	1.3	1.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic and other Elect. Equip.....	6.8	6.8	6.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Transportation Equipment.....	12.3	12.2	12.2	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Durable Goods 2/.....	3.6	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.8	2.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nondurable Goods.....	50.3	50.2	50.3	7.4	7.4	7.7	6.2	6.0	6.0
Food and Kindred Products.....	6.1	6.2	6.4	1.8	1.8	2.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Textile Mill Products.....	5.9	5.8	5.5	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apparel and Other Textile Products.....	2.8	2.8	2.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products.....	15.6	15.7	16.1	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing and Publishing.....	5.4	5.4	5.4	1.7	1.7	1.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products.....	3.0	3.0	3.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leather and Leather Products.....	10.1	10.0	9.8	1.3	1.3	1.2	2.0	1.8	1.8
Footwear (except Rubber).....	8.3	8.1	8.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Nondurable Goods 3/.....	1.4	1.3	1.4	2.6	2.6	2.9	4.2	4.2	4.2
Service Producing.....	404.4	398.7	398.9	105.0	105.5	104.0	29.8	29.6	29.1
Transportation and Public Utilities.....	20.7	21.0	21.5	5.7	5.7	6.0	1.4	1.4	1.4
Wholesale Trade.....	23.1	22.9	22.8	8.7	8.7	8.5	1.9	1.9	1.9
Retail Trade.....	103.5	99.5	100.9	26.6	27.2	26.9	8.2	8.1	7.9
General Merchandise Stores.....	11.2	11.0	11.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Food Stores.....	17.6	17.4	18.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eating and Drinking Places.....	32.1	29.2	31.1	8.3	8.1	8.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate.....	25.9	25.7	25.3	12.1	12.1	11.9	2.0	2.0	1.9
Banking.....	8.8	8.8	8.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents.....	11.7	11.7	11.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Services.....	135.1	132.7	129.9	34.5	34.1	34.2	11.5	11.4	11.4
Hotels and Other Lodging Places.....	8.2	6.7	7.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Business Services.....	14.1	13.8	13.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health Services.....	49.5	49.3	48.8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Federal Government.....	14.8	15.0	16.4	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.3
State Government.....	27.5	27.7	27.5	5.0	5.2	4.6	0.7	0.7	0.7
Local Government.....	53.8	54.2	54.6	10.4	10.5	10.0	3.8	3.8	3.6
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39. 3/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 20, 22, 23, 26, 30; Lewiston - 20, 22, 23, 26, 27. 4/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. * Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item. Source: Nonfarm wage and salary employment by place of work and earnings, and workweek of production workers in manufacturing industries are developed by the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

Area 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT Number			UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-STATEWIDE (000).....	614.6	620.6	629.0	569.5	567.1	574.4	45.1	53.5	54.5	7.3	8.6	8.7
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA.....	49,600	49,700	49,100	46,900	46,500	45,800	2,700	3,200	3,200	5.4	6.5	6.6
Lewiston-Auburn MSA.....	50,000	50,700	50,500	46,400	46,400	45,800	3,600	4,300	4,700	7.3	8.6	9.2
Portland MSA.....	118,000	121,100	120,500	112,200	113,900	113,000	5,700	7,200	7,500	4.9	5.9	6.2
Portsmouth-Rochester MSA.....	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta.....	42,870	43,150	44,750	40,160	39,800	41,040	2,710	3,350	3,710	6.3	7.8	8.3
Bath-Brunswick.....	33,690	33,880	35,130	31,860	31,560	32,700	1,830	2,320	2,430	5.4	6.8	6.9
Belfast.....	11,610	11,440	11,800	10,550	10,010	10,490	1,060	1,430	1,310	9.1	12.5	11.1
Biddeford.....	32,190	31,740	33,730	30,160	28,880	30,940	2,030	2,860	2,790	6.3	9.0	8.3
Boothbay Harbor.....	7,580	7,170	7,730	7,110	6,580	7,130	460	590	600	6.1	8.3	7.8
Bucksport.....	4,910	4,970	5,010	4,540	4,470	4,570	370	490	440	7.6	9.9	8.8
Calais.....	5,180	5,190	5,410	4,370	4,420	4,540	810	770	880	15.7	14.8	16.2
Dexter-Pittsfield.....	12,910	12,760	13,020	11,580	11,170	11,580	1,340	1,590	1,430	10.3	12.4	11.0
Dover-Foxcroft.....	6,880	7,050	7,240	6,240	6,380	6,470	630	680	770	9.2	9.6	10.7
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor.....	16,050	15,890	16,450	14,290	13,560	14,470	1,760	2,330	1,980	11.0	14.7	12.0
Farmington.....	17,850	18,580	18,400	16,320	17,140	16,650	1,530	1,440	1,750	8.5	7.8	9.5
Fort Kent.....	3,520	3,640	3,770	2,920	3,140	3,070	590	500	700	16.9	13.8	18.7
Greenville.....	970	1,040	990	820	890	820	150	150	180	15.3	14.6	17.8
Houlton.....	6,350	6,300	6,520	5,750	5,700	5,850	600	610	670	9.4	9.6	10.3
Jonesport-Milbridge.....	3,670	3,500	3,610	3,200	2,950	3,060	470	550	550	12.9	15.6	15.3
Kittery-York.....	19,130	19,380	19,200	18,480	18,480	18,420	660	890	780	3.4	4.6	4.1
Lincoln-Howland.....	5,570	5,710	5,710	4,940	5,100	5,080	620	620	630	11.2	10.8	11.1
Machias-Eastport.....	6,720	6,560	6,810	5,890	5,580	5,920	830	990	890	12.4	15.0	13.1
Madawaska.....	4,100	3,990	4,050	3,670	3,590	3,660	430	400	390	10.5	10.0	9.6
Millinocket-East Millinocket.....	5,620	5,650	5,910	4,990	5,010	5,290	640	640	620	11.3	11.3	10.5
Norway-Paris.....	9,930	9,980	10,470	8,850	8,640	9,220	1,080	1,340	1,250	10.9	13.4	11.9
Outer Bangor.....	6,960	7,110	7,140	6,240	6,280	6,400	710	830	740	10.3	11.7	10.4
Patten-Island Falls.....	1,960	1,980	1,870	1,710	1,770	1,640	250	210	230	12.8	10.7	12.1
Presque Isle-Caribou.....	20,920	21,080	22,150	18,370	18,250	19,370	2,540	2,830	2,780	12.2	13.4	12.6
Rockland.....	20,240	20,120	20,490	19,070	18,500	19,020	1,170	1,620	1,470	5.8	8.1	7.2
Rumford.....	10,640	11,380	10,480	9,520	10,360	9,350	1,120	1,020	1,130	10.5	9.0	10.7
Sanford.....	21,350	21,950	21,280	19,850	19,990	19,310	1,500	1,950	1,980	7.0	8.9	9.3
Sebago Lakes Region.....	11,630	11,920	12,250	10,720	10,900	11,190	900	1,020	1,060	7.8	8.5	8.6
Skowhegan.....	15,470	15,430	15,870	13,810	13,720	13,910	1,660	1,720	1,960	10.7	11.1	12.4
Stonington.....	4,970	4,700	5,100	4,660	4,240	4,660	310	460	440	6.2	9.8	8.6
Van Buren.....	1,510	1,510	1,540	1,310	1,290	1,300	200	220	240	13.1	14.3	15.7
Waterville.....	24,140	24,450	25,100	22,080	22,070	22,710	2,060	2,380	2,390	8.5	9.7	9.5
NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)												
Connecticut.....	n/a	n/a	1,779.7	n/a	n/a	1,666.6	n/a	n/a	113.1	n/a	n/a	6.4
Massachusetts.....	3,097.0	3,141.6	3,119.0	2,916.0	2,932.6	2,914.0	181.0	209.0	205.0	5.8	6.7	6.6
New Hampshire.....	n/a	n/a	612.1	n/a	n/a	570.0	n/a	n/a	42.1	n/a	n/a	6.9
Rhode Island.....	n/a	n/a	506.8	n/a	n/a	465.8	n/a	n/a	41.0	n/a	n/a	8.1
Vermont.....	311.4	314.4	311.8	297.0	297.1	292.5	14.5	17.3	19.4	4.6	5.5	6.2
UNITED STATES(000).....	129,682	129,718	126,491	121,604	120,844	117,856	8,078	8,874	8,635	6.2	6.8	6.8

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas are by place of residence and are not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. Data are rounded for publishing purposes. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area. n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.

2/ Current estimates preliminary. Last month and year ago estimates revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: These data are developed by the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment

ITEM	STATEWIDE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of continued-week claimants*	16,539	19,640	15,471	2,156	2,788	2,276	1,376	1,616	1,315

* Continued-week claimants are less partials for week including the 12th of the month.

Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine

Seasonally Adjusted in Thousands

ITEM	1993										1994			
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
Civilian Labor Force 1/	633.9	632.8	631.4	628.1	629.4	627.8	627.6	626.5	624.4		628.0	632.5	625.1	619.3
Resident Employment	584.9	582.9	580.4	578.0	577.1	575.2	575.9	575.1	574.7		568.6	585.5	582.2	580.0
Unemployment	48.9	49.9	51.0	50.1	52.3	52.6	51.6	51.4	49.7		59.4	43.0	42.9	39.3
Percent of Labor Force	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.0	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.0		9.5	7.4	6.9	6.4
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 2/	517.9	519.6	518.9	519.1	520.3	519.8	521.9	522.2	521.6		517.7	520.9	520.7	524.6
Construction	21.0	21.0	20.4	20.8	20.5	20.4	21.1	21.4	21.7		21.5	21.5	21.5	21.5
Manufacturing, Durable Goods	40.5	40.4	40.3	40.3	40.2	40.3	40.5	40.8	40.8		40.6	41.5	41.5	41.4
Manufacturing, Nondurable Goods	50.8	50.8	50.6	50.7	50.9	50.6	51.1	51.0	51.0		50.6	50.9	51.2	50.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.1	22.1	22.1	22.0	22.1	22.1	21.6	21.8	21.9		21.4	21.5	21.3	21.0
Wholesale Trade	23.2	22.5	23.1	23.2	23.2	23.3	23.4	23.4	23.3		23.5	23.4	23.3	23.3
Retail Trade	106.5	107.0	106.9	107.0	107.3	108.0	107.9	107.5	106.8		106.2	106.2	106.1	108.8
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	25.5	25.6	25.7	25.7	25.9	25.8	25.9	26.1	26.0		25.9	25.9	26.0	26.2
Services	132.7	134.1	134.6	133.3	134.1	135.2	136.3	136.5	136.7		135.8	136.4	136.6	138.1
Government	94.6	95.2	95.1	95.9	95.9	93.9	94.0	93.6	93.3		92.1	93.4	93.2	93.3

1/ Place of residence.

2/ Place of work.

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